

-16. (NEW) The method of claim 15, wherein the sample volume of the protein formulations of steps (a) and (b) are from about 50 μ l to about 500 μ l.

REMARKS

The Office Action dated March 23, 2003 required restriction of the claims into 3 claim Groups. In response, Applicants elect Group III, namely claims 9-12 with traverse. New claims 13-16 are dependent upon claim 9 within this Group.

Applicants' attorney has made amendments to claims 9 and 11 and added new claims 13-16 as indicated above. The amendments were made solely for the purpose of clarifying the language of the claims. The amendments to claims 9 and 11 and addition of new claims 13-16 are fully supported by the specification and add no new matter.

It is submitted that this application is now in good order for allowance and such allowance is respectfully solicited. Should the Examiner believe minor matters still remain that can be resolved in a telephone interview, the Examiner is urged to call Applicants' undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,

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